Honorable Committee Members:

This is Jesse J. Wang from Darien CT. I am writing to oppose S.B. No. 184 (RAISED) AN ACT EXTENDING THROUGH NOVEMBER 8, 2022, SEVERAL CHANGES REGARDING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 AND CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.

As a naturalized citizen, I view voting is a sacred privilege and only real, responsible citizens should partake in. I observed a few local in-person elections with great amazement and admiration. They were run well. Absentee voting system, on the other hand, happens without any viable mechanism of public monitoring, nor any guarantee of voting privacy other than a few words of assurance from Government officials. A well executed, strict absentee ballot system is required to achieve the similar trustworthiness of in-person voting. A loose and large scale vote-by-mail system will likely cause much more issues than in-person voting. The fact that previous vote-by-mail has generated so many controversies exposed the fatal flaw of absentee voting: the public does NOT trust it.

With more elections decided by just few votes, this trust issue can seriously damage the foundation of our democracy. We should not allow vote-by-absentee-ballots to be abused, instead we should focus on the effort to make each vote is real and valid. It is actually the best to have a voting id system to be able to anonymously let voters track if their votes are counted, technology is ready for it.

I respectfully ask you to vote against SB No. 184.

Jesse Wang

Darien CT